

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 9, 2010
TO: Planned Growth Committee
FROM: Phil Rupp
RE: Population projections

Issue:

Revise the adopted population projection and allocation table.

Background:

Lewis County and the cities within are required to adopt a countywide population forecast and allocation scheme that is consistent with the Office of Financial Management (OFM) projections.

In 2007, the PGC recommended a 2025 total population of 99,744 and an allocation scheme. This was subsequently adopted by the County.

The County and the cities of Toledo, Winlock, and Vader have formed a partnership and are planning for the future of South County. This 20-year subarea plan for 2030 will be sent to Board of County Commissioners in the fall for adoption as part of the County's annual amendment package.

In 2007, the OFM issued a new population projection set for 2030. The range is 74,100 (low), 94,969 (med), and 122,433 (high). The OFM estimates the county's population in 2009 was 75,200.

At this time, the County is looking for direction from the Committee as to how to work through the adoption of a 2030 population as efficiently as possible.

If the Committee recommends adoption of a new population target number, then it will be necessary to evaluate and revise existing allocations based on abilities to provide services and facilities necessary to accommodate growth.

The population allocation process is required to occur every 5 years. The OFM will make new projections in 2012 and we will have the benefit of the 2010 Census information to work with.

Recommendation:

From the County's perspective, the adopted allocations for 2025 should be carried forward to 2030 and the PGC should reconsider the adopted population projection and allocations in the near future.